13.	Manipur	2	324.64	44.67	2	66.58	11.05
14.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	1	17.18	16.81
15.	Orissa	7	4813.19	1094.69	13	606.28	110.32
16.	Punjab	—	743.54	—	1	2.00	NA
17.	Rajasthan	8	4560-82	1808.57	7	202.59	51.09
18.	Tripura	—	—	—	3	105.59	25.52
19.	Uttar Pradesh	18	6027.71	4923.86	3	55.37	6.68
20.	West Bengal	3	1695.41	1580.56	21	94.44	48.91
21.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	5	81.89	13.93
	TOTAL:	172	73934.85	22033.26	276	5963.38	1532.12

(b) & (c):The normal schedule of completion for major projects is 10—20 years and for medium irrigation projects in 5 years. However, actual completion of the project depends upon the size of the project, availability of funds technical problems encountered during construction, problems in acquisition of land (forests, private and Government), problems in rehabilitation & resettlement of the oustees, public agitations, contractual problems etc.

(d) The anticipated spill-over cost of major and medium irrigation schemes at the end of Annual Plans 1994-95 is Rs. 44,037 crores and Rs. 2296 crores respectively.

(e) To expedite completion of ongoing major & medium irrigation and multipurpose projects, the Union Govt. has launched Accelerated Irrigation BENEFITS Programme with budget allocation of Rs. 900 crores during 1996-97 under which central Loan Assistance is provided to the State Govts. on matching basis. Other sums taken for timely completion of the projects are, giving priority to those projects which have made substantial progress, earmarking by Planning Commission of outlays for important projects, intensive monitoring of important projects, setting up of cost Control Cells in the States etc.

Note: NA—Not Applicable

Amendment of the Special Protection Group Act

*91. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to amend the Special Protection Group Act in order to restrict this elite security cover to the serving Prime Minister and members of his immediate family;

(b) if so, the details regarding the present cover of the Special Protection Group to the former Prime Ministers; and

(c) the details regarding the desirability of amending the Special Protection Group Act in respect of serving as well as former Prime Ministers?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) There is no move at present to amend the SPG Act to restrict SPG security cover to serving Prime Minister and members of his immediate family.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Construction of Rest Areas Along National Highway No. 5 in Andhra Pradesh

*92. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received to construct rest areas along National Highway No. 5 in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to convene a local inspection to fulfil this public demand?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, a representation for establishment of a rest area between Eluru-

Tadepalligudem on National Highway No. 5 in Andhra Pradesh has been received and will be decided according to the instant policy.

Rural Telephone Projects

*93. DR. Y. LAKSHMIPRASAD: SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rural telephone projects proposed to be executed by March, 1997; and

(b) the approximate expenditure thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Details of rural Telephone projects and approximate expenditure thereof is as given in the enclosed statement. (*see* below)

Statement

Details of Rural Telephone Projects for 1996-97

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	No. of Telephone exchanges planned	VPDs	Approx. Expenditure (in Crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	300	4000	83.2
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	4	201	1.7
3.	Assam	41	500	83.8
4.	Bihar	266	6500	79.2
5.	Gujarat	208	4000	117.5
6.	Haryana	235	357	108.0
7.	Himachal Pradesh	133	1000	65.0
8.	J&K	43	600	1.8
9.	Karnataka	210	3000	111.3
10.	Kerala	473	0	78.0
11.	Madhya Pradesh	261	9850	124.4
12.	Maharashtra	190	5000	71.6
13.	North East	57	1000	74.7
14.	Orissa	70	5000	89.7
15.	Punjab	50	4750	10.8
16.	Rajasthan	80	6500	57.0
17.	Tamilnadu	150	3200	89.9
18.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	211	9000	33.6
19.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	256	6000	97.5
20.	West Bengal	184	5000	43.4

Reviewing the Functioning of the Ministry of External Affairs

*94. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFAFIRS be plaesed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is not only the recent Security Council fiasco but on several other issues like handling of Iran's initiative on Afgan crisis, our foreign offices have been found to be out of sorts; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to review the functioning of the Ministry of External Affairs in view of the above setbacks and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) Significant recent developments in the international sphere include events in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, the need to reactivate the Non-Aligned Movement, to srengthen South-South